

Guards in the 50 states operate under dual federal and local jurisdiction. Yet only the President and the Commanding General of the D.C. National Guard currently have the authority to deploy the D.C. National Guard for local and national purposes, respectively. Today, the most likely need for the D.C. National Guard here would be for natural disasters and to restore order in the wake of civil disturbances. The mayor, who knows the city better than any federal official and who works closely with federal security officials, should be able to call on the D.C. National Guard for local natural disasters and civil disturbances, after consultation with the Commanding General of the D.C. National Guard. The President should be focused on national matters, including homeland security, not local D.C. matters. Homeland security authority, with respect to the D.C. National Guard, would remain the sole province of the President, along with the power to nationalize the D.C. National Guard at will. It does no harm to give the mayor this authority for civil disturbances and natural disasters. However, it could do significant harm to leave the mayor powerless to act quickly. If it makes sense that governors would have control over the mobilization and deployment of their National Guard, it makes equal sense for the mayor of the District of Columbia, with a population the size of a small state, to have the same authority.

The mayor of the District of Columbia, as head of state, should have the authority to deploy the D.C. National Guard in instances that do not rise to the level of homeland defense activities. My bill requires that the mayor only deploy the D.C. National Guard after consultation with the Commanding General of the D.C. National Guard. The bill is another important step toward completing the transfer of full self-government powers to the District of Columbia. Congress itself began with the passage of the Home Rule Act of 1973, when it delegated most of its authority to the District of Columbia. The bill follows that model.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

HONORING AND RECOGNIZING THE HEROES OF THE BATTLE OF CRETE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am reintroducing legislation to honor and recognize the heroes of the Battle of Crete and commend the PanCretan Association of America for preserving and promoting the history of Crete and its people.

During the Battle of Crete in May 1941, Allied forces and the people of Crete joined together to fight against an advancing Nazi army. Although unsuccessful in defeating the Nazi invaders, this coalition of forces inflicted enormous casualties to the airborne Nazi assault, resulting in more than 3,700 German troops killed and the destruction of multiple transport aircraft. In addition to these losses, the Allied forces were able to hold off the Nazi victory long enough to ensure that the German army would face a harsh and destructive winter as it proceeded to Russia.

This resolution observes the memory of the brave men and women who perished and honors the living that fought in the Battle of Crete.

TRIBUTE TO THE NOVI WILDCATS

HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge the Division 1 State Champion Ice Hockey team from Novi High School. On March 12, 2011 the Novi Wildcats won the first state championship in the team's 13 year history with a 4-0 shutout over the Orchard Lake St. Mary's Eagles.

Following a successful regular season in the Central Division of the Kensington Conference in the Kensington Lakes Athletic Association the Wildcats claimed both the division and conference titles before narrowly dropping the KLAAs crown to the Lakes Conference champion, Howell by a slim 4-3 margin.

Novi's first pre-regional game, played at Plymouth's Compuware Arena, produced a 6-0 win against South Lyon and paved the way to play long time rival Detroit Catholic Central in their 2nd pre-regional matchup. The Wildcats squeaked by the Shamrocks in a hard fought contest, winning 4-3. Moving on to regional competition the Wildcats savored the chance to avenge the earlier loss KLAAs nemesis Howell. This time Novi iced the Highlanders 3-0, happy to let Howell have the KLAAs trophy as the Wildcats pursued the bigger prize.

Head Coach Todd Krygier's skaters advanced to quarterfinal action at Perani Arena in Flint. This matchup pitted brother against brother as Todd Krygier's Wildcats decimated younger brother Bryan Krygier's Clarkston Wolves, 9-1. Coach Krygier along with Assistant Coaches Jim Lewis and Travis Malott brought the Green and White back to Compuware to face off against Lake Orion in the semi-final round. The Wildcats didn't allow the Dragons a goal and came away with a 3-0 win.

Advancing to the championship, Novi met the storied Orchard Lake St. Mary's on the ice for the first time ever. The Wildcats convincingly rose to their final challenge and soared to a 4-0 victory raising the Division 1 trophy in triumph.

Mr. Speaker, with a regular season record of 24-5-1, the Wildcats carried an astounding 171 goals while giving up only 61 and a play-off run of 6-0 with 29 Goals compared to 4 for their opponents, the 2011 Novi Wildcats deserve to be recognized for their determination, achievement and spirit and I am very proud of their effort. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Wildcats for obtaining this spectacular title and honoring their devotion to our community and country.

TRIBUTE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF CHAMBERSBURG, PENN- SYLVANIA

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the people of the City of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. They well deserve recognition for their generous and humane extension of a

helping hand to their sister city, Gotemba, Japan.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all those in Japan who are coping with the aftermath of a truly tragic disaster. We stand in support of our friends and allies in Japan who are doing everything they can to recover from the devastating earthquake and tsunami.

In my district, the Mayor of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, Pete Lagiovane, announced this week that his city will offer assistance to their sister city in the wake of the earthquake and tsunami that has devastated Japan. While fortunately the people of Gotemba were not as severely impacted as those in the northeast part of Japan, they are dealing with heavy hearts for their friends, families, and countrymen as well as serious disruptions to their power supply and transportation system.

Mayor Lagiovane has offered assistance in a joint effort to assist Gotemba in providing relief to the victims of the earthquake and tsunami. He put forward the idea of starting a local relief fund with the proceeds going to Gotemba to disburse as they see fit.

Chambersburg and Gotemba have been sister cities for 50 years. Their relationship started when a Japanese student at Penn Hall and Wilson College returned home after World War II. The student wanted to maintain a bond with Chambersburg, so she and her son came back and conducted several meetings with the city council and established a sister city relationship in 1960. The two cities have exchanged visits every 5 years since then.

The spirit of sisterhood and love between these two cities—separated by thousands of miles and a vast ocean—encapsulate the attitude we should all have toward our fellow man. I commend Chambersburg for their selfless attitude and generosity.

WISHING THE UW MEN'S BASKET- BALL TEAM THE BEST OF LUCK

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, today is St. Patrick's Day—a day that is universally associated with good luck. Calling on my Irish heritage, I would like to convey continued good luck to the University of Washington men's basketball team. This past weekend they won the Pac-10 Championship and tomorrow they seek to continue their run in the NCAA tournament when they open against the University of Georgia.

Good luck and go Dawgs.

HONORING NATIONAL EXCHANGE CLUB 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the outstanding service The National Exchange Club provides the citizens of Dallas County, Texas.

The National Exchange Club, a service organization with 700 clubs and approximately

22,000 members throughout the United States and Puerto Rico will celebrate its 100th anniversary on March 27, 2011. For 100 years, its volunteer efforts have supported the needs of the country and of local communities, making it the country's oldest American service organization operating exclusively in this country.

I would like to specifically recognize the clubs in the Fifth Congressional District of Texas—Garland Noon Exchange, Mesquite Noon Exchange, Rowlett Noon Exchange, and Lake Highlands Exchange. Members of these clubs give countless hours to the prevention of child abuse, youth projects, and other community service projects. Exchange Club members also promote the American spirit through their core values of family, community, and nation.

This organization provides an invaluable service to those in the community who truly need assistance. Over the years, thousands of individuals and families have been blessed by the men and women of the Exchange Clubs.

I am pleased today to recognize the Exchange Clubs for their contributions to Dallas County. To all the men and women who give of their time and efforts so generously, on behalf of all the constituents of the Fifth District, I would like to extend our most sincere gratitude.

IN HONOR OF JIM MANNASSERO

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I come to the House floor today to raise a glass of scotch in memory of Jim Mannassero, who died late last year following a brief illness. Jim was a giant among giants in the Salinas Valley's \$4 billion produce industry. He was involved for decades in vegetable production at all levels and was admired as a true leader by colleagues and competitors alike. So while you may have never heard of Jim Manassero, I can guarantee that every member of Congress has eaten something that Jim helped to grow.

Those fortunate enough to know Jim will remember his gravely voice—a voice that he never hesitated to use to tell it as he saw it. Jim was always free with his opinions and observations, but he never let those opinions stray from his own deep knowledge and wisdom. When Jim spoke, you always knew that there was thought behind his words, even if those words came with a kick in the pants. He never left you in doubt about where you stood with him. But Jim's leadership and authority didn't come from being loud or pushy, it came from unfailing honesty and deep integrity. So while you may not have agreed with Jim, you always trusted him. Jim's friends will also remember his sense of style, with one pant leg tucked into his boot and accessorized whenever he could with a glass of scotch.

Jim worked for D'Arrigo Bros. of California for thirty two years, serving as Vice President of California Operations for the last 25. He was a member of Class I of the prestigious California Ag Leadership Program. He was the current Chairman of the Monterey County Agriculture Advisory Group which counsels the Monterey County Board of Supervisors on issues facing the agricultural industry. He was a founding member, and past President, of the

Salinas River Coalition, where he worked with other Salinas Valley land owners to reduce the flood risk to Salinas Valley Communities and the surrounding farmland. Since 1979, Jim served as a member of the California Lettuce Research Board, serving as the organization's Chairman from 1997 to 1999. Jim served as Chairman of the Board of the Grower-Shipper Association in 1985–1986. Just last year he was the recipient of the Association's highest honor, the E.E. "Gene" Harden Award for Lifetime Achievement in Central Coast Agriculture. The additional boards, commissions, organizations and committees on which Jim served are too numerous to mention but, it is enough to say that Jim did the work of a dozen people. The United States is a better place for Jim's efforts.

Mr. Speaker, Jim leaves behind his wife, Ginny, his two children, Victoria and Paul, and one grandson, Julian. I know that I speak for the whole House in extending to them and to Jim's friends and colleagues our deepest condolences.

HONORING SHEVCHENKO AND ALDRIDGE

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, March is a month when Ukrainians worldwide pay tribute to Taras Shevchenko, whose monument here in Washington, D.C. bears testament to his prescient writings, prophetic visions for human dignity, and aspirations for the worth of each individual. It is with deepest respect for his life after purchase out of serfdom, and that of his friend Ira Aldridge, purchased out of slavery; that the very idea of liberty took flame out of the repressive conditions of their forbears. Their lives deserve recognition and revelation, decade after decade, so the world remembers and honors those whose paths cleared the way for our own.

[From the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation Update, Mar. 8, 2011]

HONORING A FRIENDSHIP BONDED IN DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS FROM ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA TO WASHINGTON, DC

(By Robert A. McConnell)

While February is Black History Month, a month when attention is given specifically to the contribution of Afro-Americans to our country, our society, and culture, March is the month that Ukrainians worldwide honor Taras Shevchenko. For Ukrainian-Americans, both months are a time of reflection on a very special and unique friendship between one of Ukraine's greatest historical figures, Taras Shevchenko, and a famously talented black American, Ira Aldridge.

Although both men died in the 1860s, one in Russia and the other in Poland, and though both are little known to the general public in America, both of their images are present in the capital city of the United States. A mere two and a half miles apart here in Washington DC stand monuments to Taras Shevchenko and to Ira Aldridge. The first was born a Ukrainian serf who was purchased out of bondage in order for his immense talents to blossom; the second was born a Negro in New York who, because of the color of his skin, had to leave his country to find the full glory of his God-given talent.

At the corner of 22nd and P streets in Northwest Washington stands the figure of

Taras Shevchenko, a monument to the man, his writing, his profound commentaries on human dignity, pleas of help for the plight of the downtrodden and his aspirations for his country, struggling under tsarist repression. Engraved in the granite is his hope for Ukraine: "When shall we get our Washington, to promulgate his new and righteous law?" On the other side of the city stands The Ira Aldridge Theatre on the Howard University campus, constructed in memory of a great thespian talent and as a symbol of challenges overcome, paths revealed for other talents to follow.

Portraits of both men hang in that theater, portraits painted by Taras Shevchenko and donated to Howard University in 1967 from the archives of the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the United States.

Born a serf in Ukraine, Shevchenko was destined for a lifetime of servitude. Yet when his owner left Ukraine for St. Petersburg, Russia, he took the young Shevchenko along. In St. Petersburg, Shevchenko's artistic talents were revealed. In 1838, the city's artistic circles succeeded in raising 2,500 rubles to purchase Shevchenko's freedom. Once free, he became a student at the Imperial Academy of Arts and his artwork and poetic writing flourished. His poems glorified Ukraine and demanded freedom and justice for all oppressed nations and classes of people.

Shevchenko returned to Ukraine in 1845 to find great injustices. His poems criticized the tsarist regime and chided the aristocracy's oppression of the peasants. For these expressions, he was arrested and deported from Ukraine to exile in a remote part of Asian Russia, incarcerated in a military penal facility and, by the decree of the Tsar, denied writing and drawing materials. Despite the Tsar's orders and the incarcerations terrible cost to his health, Shevchenko secretly composed some of his most powerful works while imprisoned and in political exile. Moreover, at the same time, Shevchenko's Ukrainian and Russian friends, including Count and Countess Fyodor Tolstoy, worked to secure his freedom again. Finally, ten years after his arrest, Shevchenko was released. Forbidden to return to Ukraine, he returned to St. Petersburg, where he soon met the American Ira Aldridge.

Although Aldridge had been born in New York, as his immense talents became apparent, he found his opportunities limited due to the significant discrimination against blacks. He chose to emigrate to England in 1824 and began acting in small London theatres. Receiving notice and praise, he was soon performing in England's finest theatres and began to tour outside London. By 1852, Aldridge, the first black to act in white roles in Shakespeare's plays, left for his first European tour. Receiving acclaim everywhere he traveled, he returned to London a theatrial hero.

In 1858, Aldridge accepted an invitation from the Russian Imperial Theatre to perform in St. Petersburg. Shevchenko attended the opening performance and the two men were introduced.

There are numerous letters and notes commenting upon their meeting and friendship. One of Tolstoy's daughters, Katherine, served as an early translator between Aldridge and Shevchenko and wrote about the experience and their friendship. Shevchenko attended Aldridge's performances. Aldridge visited Shevchenko's studio and posed for the artist. They visited one another often and spent time in the same social circles, one that included many artists, performers, intellectuals.

Their friendship was unique since they had in common not only the creativity of their